THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Schemes for full coverage of not covered (NC) and partially covered (PC) habitations in rural areas are approved by the States under powers delegated to them. Central assistance of Rs. 9958.71 lakhs and Rs. 5703.60 lakh has been released to the State Government of Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat respectively under the Accelerated Water Supply Programme during 1996-97 and 1997-98 so far.

The information in regard to the proposal for Urban Areas is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Appointment of Teachers

5751. SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the news item captioned "Shikshakon Ki niyukti ki prakriya sandehaspad", appearing in the 'Jansatta' Delhi edition dated, March 4, 1997;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The News item refers to issues such as recruitment of Post Graduate Teachers centrally and cut off marks for different regions, etc.

(c) Recruitment of teachers in Kendriya Vidyalaya is made in accordance with rules and procedure prescribed for the purpose.

[English]

Incentives for Small Family

5752. SHRI VIJAY PATEL : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to give incentives to Government employees observing two children norm; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) and (b) A set of incentives, as follows, is already in operation for Central Government employees (within the specified age limits) having one, two or three children, who or their spouse undergoes sterilisation :-

(i) Special increment in the form of personal pay not to be absorbed in future increases of pay;

(ii) ½% rebate in rate of interest on House Building Advance; and

(iii) Special Casual Leave for undergoing sterilisation/ IUD insertion.

Institute for Inland Water Transport

5753. SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to setup a Training Institute for personnel working in the field of Inland Water Transport in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details with locations thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) to (c) A proposal to set up one training Institute at Thevara (Kochi) for training of personnel working in IWT sector received from Government of Kerala is under consideration.

World Bank AID

5754. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the progress of World Bank aid Rs. 313.71 crore sodic land reclamation Pilot Project in U.P. is very tardy as on day;

(b) while it is also a fact that this slow progress of the sodic land reclamation project has blocked World Bank aid for another comprehensive project in U.P.;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) steps being taken to step up progress of the Pilot Project ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) No, Sir. Upto December, 1996, an area of 20,603 hectares has been reclaimed against a